



WHEN THE NATION GOES TO WAR, THE PEOPLE DESERVE THE TRUTH



American men and women risked and gave their lives for a war based on fighting an imminent threat to homeland security. The case for this war — made unequivocally by President Bush and members of his administration — rested on intelligence that has been exposed as exaggerated or even false.

Over the last year, the administration has made a series of statements that have now been called into question by the facts.

“Simply stated, there is no doubt that Saddam Hussein now has weapons of mass destruction. There is no doubt he is amassing them to use against our friends, against our allies, and against us.”

—Vice President Dick Cheney,
Speech to VFW National Convention,
August 26, 2002

“The evidence indicates that Iraq is reconstituting its nuclear weapons program.”

—President George W. Bush,
Cincinnati, Ohio,
October 7, 2002

“Our intelligence officials estimate that Saddam Hussein had the materials to produce as much as 500 tons of sarin, mustard and VX nerve agent.”

—President George W. Bush,
The State of the Union Address,
January 28, 2003

“The British government has learned that Saddam Hussein recently sought significant quantities of uranium from Africa.”

—President George W. Bush,
The State of the Union Address,
January 28, 2003

“We know that Saddam Hussein is determined to keep his weapons of mass destruction, is determined to make more.”

—Secretary of State Colin Powell,
Remarks to the United Nations Security Council,
February 5, 2003

“We have sources that tell us that Saddam Hussein recently authorized Iraqi field commanders to use chemical weapons — the very weapons the dictator tells us he does not have.”

—President George W. Bush,
Weekly Radio Address,
February 8, 2003

“And we believe he has, in fact, reconstituted nuclear weapons.”

—Vice President Dick Cheney,
NBC’s “Meet the Press,”
March 16, 2003

“Intelligence gathered by this and other governments leaves no doubt that the Iraq regime continues to possess and conceal some of the most lethal weapons ever devised.”

—President George W. Bush,
Address to the Nation,
March 17, 2003

“We know where they are. They are in the area around Tikrit and Baghdad.”

—Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld,
Discussing WMD on ABC’s “This Week”
with George Stephanopoulos,
March 30, 2003

“We are learning more as we interrogate or have discussions with Iraqi scientists and people within the Iraqi structure, that perhaps he destroyed some, perhaps he dispersed some. And so we will find them.”

—President George W. Bush,
Interview by Tom Brokaw, NBC,
April 24, 2003

“I’m not surprised if we begin to uncover the weapons program of Saddam Hussein — because he had a weapons program.”

—President George W. Bush,
Oval Office Remarks,
May 6, 2003

“The larger point is, and the fundamental question is, did Saddam Hussein have a weapons program? And the answer is, absolutely. And we gave him a chance to allow the inspectors in, and he wouldn’t let them in. And, therefore, after a reasonable request, we decided to remove him from power...”

— President George W. Bush
Oval Office Remarks,
July 14, 2003

“These 16 words should never have been included in the text written for the President.”

—Statement of CIA Director George Tenet,
On President Bush’s State of the Union Address,
July 11, 2003

“Mr. President, to conclude, we have to date found no evidence that Iraq has revived its nuclear weapon program since the elimination of the program in the 1990s.”

—International Atomic Energy
Agency Director Mohammed ElBaradei,
Presentation to the UN Security Council,
January 27, 2003

“The President’s assertion that the war began because Iraq did not admit inspectors appeared to contradict the events leading up to war this spring: Hussein had, in fact, admitted the inspectors and Bush had opposed extending their work because he did not believe them effective.”

—Washington Post, July 15, 2003

WE DESERVE THE TRUTH

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Quotations compiled from various public sources including The New York Review of Books, counterpunch.org, billmon.org, and others.